4151.c

A few plain words to the Inhabitants of ENGLAND

Greene (Thos) K

O *England, England*, thy Visitation is nigh over, thy day is well nigh past, thou hast been an Adulterous Nation, and hast run up and down to change thy way, and hath loathed the Hony and the Hony Comb, and wouldest not take counsel of the Lord, but hast committed the two great evils in forsaking the Lord the living Fountaine, from which thou mightest have received life, and peace, and hast diged unto thy self broken Cesterns wherein life, and peace is not retained; Oh *England, England*, thy sorrow is coming, and thy destruction is neare, pain shall seize upon thee as a Woman in travel, anguish and trouble of Spirit shall take hold of thee, and thou shalt weep and mourn with sorrow of heart, and there shall be none to comfort thee, but thou shalt be a hiſing to all Nations round about thee, thou shalt be called no more the Lady of Kingdoms, thy valient men shall faile thee, and thy mighty men shall become weak, and thy strong men shall lose their courage, they shall be amazed one at another, thy mighty shall stumble at thy mighty, and they shall both fall together, and there shall be none to deliver thee; Oh *England, England*, oh that thou wouldst have took counsel of the Lord the holy one of *Israel*, thy maker that formed thee in the womb, that brought thee forth, and made thee become a strong Nation, even a terror to all Nations round about thee, who have heard of thy fame, when thy God the God of *Iacob* was on thy side, then there was no Inchantment nor evil divinations, nor no weapons that were formed against thee, prospered, but with thee did thy maker make War against them that were more wicked then thee, and thou wast as his battel Axe; with thee thy God did overturne the Horse and his Rider, and thy name was famous amongst the Nations, and a dread to the foraigne Countrys, and an astonishment to the Heathen, that knew not thy God: Oh *England, England*, how hast thou forgot thy God that hath done thus wonderfully for thee, and by thee, and hast not walked answerable ac-

according to thy great mercys that thy God hath bestowed upon thee, but hath waxed fat, and kicked against thy maker, and hath forgotten him and hast gloryed in thy shame, and hath minded earthly things, and hast exalted thy own horn and art joyning thy self to Idols, and hast hated his reproofe, and hast cast his righteous Law behinde thy back, and hast promised liberty to others when thou thy self hast been a servant to corruption, being departed out of his counsel, and art become vaine in thy imaginations, & so now darkness is come over thee, and thick darkness hath covered thee, for thou hast rejected his light even Christ Jesus, by which thou mightest have known salvation, and mightest have been reconciled to thy Maker, and mightest have known perpetual peace, but instead of answering the Lord according to his great mercys bestowed upon thee, thou art turned against him, and them that purely stands in his counsel, who keeps the word of his patience, and hath the testimony of his Son Christ Jesus, who for departing from iniquity are made a prey of by thee, and now thou art bereaved of sense, and art cursing that which God hath blessed, and art laying the sword upon the Righteous, and art making decrees against the upright, and now the proud are called happy and they that tempt the Lord are delivered and the Innocent lyeth oppressed, and none layeth it to heart: Oh, Desolation, desolation shall come upon thee, leanness shall enter into thee, feebleness shall surprize thee, thy knees shall smite together, and thy life shall be a burthen to thee, because of the desolation that is coming upon thee, because of the Abominations that are committed in thee, oh if the things which have been done in thee, had been done in *Sodom* and *Gomorah*, surely they would have Repented; Oh, *England*, *England*, my Native Country, I am in sorrow for thee because of the destruction that is coming upon thee, from which none can deliver thee, ye the Overflowing Scourge is coming which is in the hand of the Almighty, which will not spare neither thy Noble, nor thy Ignoble, that are gone out of his Counsels, and are committing Adultry with other lovers, and art covering thy self but not with the pure spirit of the Lord; therefore Woe, woe and misery shall come upon thee, and thy Sacrifices shall be spread as dung on thy face, ye all that thou dost is abomination to the Lord, and all thy Worships which thou hast and art inventing he abhors, and it is all abomination to the pure God, and he is weary to bear them, for thou livest in all unrighteousness, yet thou makes mention of the name of the Lord to take away thy reproach, but thy

covering

covering is to narrow, the Lord hath beheld thee, ye all thy Actions are naked and bare before him, and from the wrath which is coming upon thee thou canst not escape neither canst thou be delivered from the stroak of his hand neither shalt thou save thy self, neither each deliver his brother, but all within thy borders that are gone out of the Counsel of the Lord, shall be cut off from amongst thee, and these things shall come upon thee because of thy Iniquitys, thou hast for a long time mocked the Lord, as if he was such a one as thy self, thou hast drew neer to him with thy Lips but thy heart hath been exercised with all unrighteousness, pride and oppression, and all wickedness hath abounded in thee, and though thy God hath strove with thee from time to time, by his good spirit in thee, but thou hast not regarded but hath rushed into Iniquity as a horse into the Battel, and he hath also raised and called his Children from among thee to bare testimony against the evil that is committed in thee, and them thou hast whiped and stoned, and cast into Prison, even many until death, and ye thou hast not hearkened unto the Lord, but hast strengthened the hands of the evil doers, and hast made the hearts of the righteous sad whom the Lord hath not made sad, and hast cryed peace, peace, but, now behold sudden destruction is coming upon thee, therefore now all who fears the Lord, come out from amongst them, and be ye seperated from them, that he may preserve you, for there are a few, ye a remnant that are come out of thee, that worships the true God in his spirit which they have received from him and them will the Lord leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord, and shall not do Iniquity nor speak lyes, neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths, for they shall feed and ly down, and none shall make afraid: Oh *England, England,* the Land of my Nativity thou must drink deep at the hand of the Lords wrath poured out without mixture, from the presence of the Lamb, ye all who have received the marke of the Beast must go into the Lake for ever, and ever, even all but those whose names are written in the Lambs Book of life; this is true and shall stand though the full end be not yet.

From the Common Goale in Bedford the 11th. *of the* 2d. *Month* 1661.

By a friend to the Lambs followers who feeds in the Sheapheards Tent, and their lyeth down out of all fear, but only of the Lord.

Thomas Green.

THe sixth of the second Month, 1660. in the night season was shewed me a Vision as I lay upon my bed, in the silence of my spirit; I saw a Book opened, and looking into it, my heart was greived, and my Spirit in me was troubled, yet nevertheless in it I read, and in reading the glory of the world was presented unto me, and much of it I might injoy, if I would joyn with the Princes thereof; and on the contrary if I would not joyn with them, that I should be tormented and persecuted exceedingly, then I pondred in my heart and seriously consider what the end of this matter might be, and I looked and beheld they that were with the Princes of this world were an exceeding numberless number of the great ones of the Earth, and a great and mighty people were they & furious to behold, then I wayted to see further in the things, and I looked & behold they stood upon a dry place, and I turned my head and I saw a great Pit and in it was no water, then it was shewed me, that if I joyned with them, then I should fall and perish, for want of water; Then another Book was opened and in it I saw a few which were come from amongst the Princes of the Earth, and they were but a few, then I turned to see what was their strength, and by what they were preserved and supported against so mighty a people, and I looked, and beheld they stood together, and in the midst of them was a River of water as clear as Christal, and they all drank of the River, and was refreshed, and they would not go from it, then some that were amongst the great Multitude that were a thirst came and drank, and were satisfied and never returned more to the great number, then I turned to the small number, where the water was and I drank and was satisfied, then I was to call to them of the great number, and tell them where they might have water, that they might never thirst more, then I (tasting of the water) said certainly it is good to be here, soon after the numberless number sought to destroy the few (who drank of the River and were satisfied) but they could not hurt them, for the Lord was with them, but the numberless number, who drank not of the River fell into their own Pit, and perished for want of water, then said I is there any God like unto our God, nay, praise him for evermore.

Thomas Green.

AS a mighty Host in Pharaohs Coast, so do the wicked rise,
But in the strength of the living God we do them all despise,
Who as a beseiged Citty so do they us beset,
Yet in the power of the Lamb the victory we shall get,

For

For our weapons they are tryed though not visible to behold,
Which is the Spirit of the mighty God, this makes us very bold,
And with this spirit we Pray, and with understanding Sing
Unto the living God, who is be come our King,
His word is in our hearts with his Septer he doth us sway,
And by his power hath us preserved unto this very day,
Worthy worthy is he to Reigne, whose strength is ever sure,
And doth remaine World without end when time shall be no more,
Therefore let *Sion* now rejoyce, let *Ierusalem* be glad,
For the Lord hath bowed down his eare and their cry he hath heard,
Although in Prisons close, and in Dungeons they are shut,
Yet the Lord the mighty God he doth not them forget.

T. G.

To you Travellers in *Sion*, and to you Mourners therein to you I send Salvation.

FRiends you I have remembred, and the remembrance of you hath been sweet unto me, and this is the word of the Lord unto ye despised ones, who have chose the Lord the God of Iacob *to be your God which came unto me in the night season when my heart was fixed on him, and my mind stayed in his invisible gift, and as I meditated on him in the night watchet, Thus saith the Lord there is counsel with me I am the instructor of the simple, and will be strength unto the weake, and my people shall know that I am God and that there is none besides me; for my left hand shall be under them, and with my right hand will I uphold them; I will be as a rest in a weary land unto them, and as a refuge in the day of battel, and though they be feeble I will support them, and weak yet will I give them strength, and I will never leave them nor forsake them. and my Covenant concerning them shall never be broken, if man could break my Covenant with the day, that there should not be day and night in its season, then might they disanul the Covenant that I made to* Abraham *and his seed for ever. but the seed shall indure for ever, and shall abide as the Sun before me, yet for all this they who have chosen me shall not goe untryed, for I will suffer them to be tryed that they may be proved yet will I preserve the*

faithful

faithful and the upright hearted whose eye is at my glory, unto them my name shall be famous because my power which is the higher power they shall feel in their inward parts from which they shall speak well of my name, and though their Enemies be many who as Jeroboam *the Son of* Nebat *would cause them to sin, saying their Imaginations are the Gods which brought us out of* Egypt, *but all ye that is upright hearted they shall never prevaile against you, for there is no Inchantments against* Jacob, *nor Divination against* Israel *but I behold it, and with my Light will shew it unto you, and will preserve you out of the path that leads to the Chambers of Death, and will honour you amongst the people, and Crown you with my Life that is immortal, and will fill your souls with joy, and your hearts with gladness, even with a greater joy than that of Harvest, therefore all ye weak ones, whose faces are set towards* Sion *and have turned your backs to* Babylon, *the City of Confusion, and from all her Merchants, lift up your heads for the day is come and coming that the Lord will comfort the Mourners and give them beauty for ashes, and a Garment of praise for the Spirit of Heaviness. for it is praises that becomes my house and with the high praises shall the upright be filled from the feeling of my life in their inward parts, and though their Enemies be many, and the Wicked ariseth against them as a mighty Flood and seem to overflow them yet will I scatter them as with an East wind. and I will plead with them in my fury, and in my hot displeasure will I take vengeance at mine and your Enemies, and I will preserve you, and will reward you double into your bosoms that are faithful unto me, therefore none be cast down. for neither Walls, nor Locks, nor Bars can seperate me from you, but I will assuredly be with you and will secretly uphold you, and will get my self a name in you, by which Salvation ye shall know me, to be unto you as Walls and Bulworks, and ye shall count nothing dear to your selves, that ye may finish your course with joy, so blessed are ye upright, yee shall stand in your lot at the end of the day but the deceitful and Rebellious shall dwell in a dry Land, and this is a faithful salutation to you all from a lover of Truth and* Righteousness, *and a follower of the Lamb.*

Your Freind Thomas Green.

Given fourth the 14*th.* of
the 6*th.* Month 1662.
in *Colchester* to be
Read amongst
Freinds,

When

WHen my Meditations were on my God, and my heart was closed and joyned to his eternal quickning spirit, and in it was waiting, then I cast my eye to behold my suffering brethren, who suffers for the testimony of my God, and for keeping the word of his patience, then a pitty in my heart arose towards them w ho are dayly made a prey upon by unreasoable men, then said I Lord how long, how long will it be before thou restraine the wicked & say unto them enough who dayly tread upon thy heritage, and lyeth in waite to devoure them and swallow up them quick, who have chose thee, the Lord of *Iacob*, the God of poor distressed *Israel*, to be their God; Thus saith the Lord the mighty God of *Iacob* fear not, fear not neither be thou troubled, for I will deliver my seed, though at this time its very small and lyeth as amongst the clods of the Earth; I have heard, I have heard its cry, and its request, I do regard and my eare hath listened, and I have taken notice of my Childrens mournings, and their tears, I have beheld, and uprightness in their hearts I have found, and their desire is to do my will, and to answer my requirings, for my love hath gained their hearts, for I have searched them, and tryed many of them to the bottom, and I have found my excellent Spirit as in my servant *Daniel*, and its much regarded by them, and their delight is to be guided by it, and they love me more then earthly glory, and have chose me to be their God; Surely saith the Lord the mighty God of *Iacob*, I will never forget them, though the Mountains may depart, and though the Hills may be removed, yet my loving kindness shall never depart from those that fear me, nor my Covenant of mercy from my *Seed* for ever, though Hell and Death combind together and cry a Confedracy, yet they shall never prevaile, neither shall they lay my Heritage waste: Therefore now let all the upright in heart rejoyce, and let their souls praise the living God who will be avenged of their *Enemies*, and of all that rise up against them, and will scatter them as with an East-wind in his feirce indignation which is already kindled, for the Lord is awakened to jealousie, and now is come to preserve his little Flock that they may know his power, and feele his everlasting Arme to be revealed in them, for now will he be Salvation to the Righteous, and gladness to the pure in heart: The Time, the time, the time, the set time is come, that the Lord is come

to

to comfort the poor desolate ones, and he will abide with them for ever, and in the Armes of his tender mercy will he preserve them to his own glory, and to the comfort of their souls for ever, who in the life of the Lamb abide, Crowned with immortal life shall they be, and in time shall sing the song of *Moses*, and the Lamb even the Song of deliverance, and tryumph in their hearts over all that is contrary to the Lord, blessed are the faithful, and happy for ever shall they be that abides unto the end, and have always hold of the life thats eternal, with that to be kept, so will they finish their Course with joy, and lye down in peace in the Kingdom of Righteousness; Let it be so saith my soul in the name of the Lord, *Amen*.

THE END

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Printed for W.M. 1662.